# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RURAL DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2000
DEPLETION OF UNDERGROUND RESOURCES
JAI PRAKASH

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) the area of barren land out of the total land fit for irrigation in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the underground resources are fast depleting in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check this depletion?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) As per Land Use Classification Statistics, net irrigated area and the total area of barren land in the country is 55.14 million ha. and 19.23 million ha. respectively. State-wise details of net irrigation area and barren land in the country is given at Annexure - I.

(b) & (c) The long term observation made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The name of the States/districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metres (1980-99) has been observed are indicated in the Annexure - II.

(c) Water being a State subject, action to augment the ground water resources is to be taken by the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Ground Water Board is implementinga Central Sector Scheme on`Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water` on pilot basis with a view to assess the efficacy of various recharge structures in some `Over-exploited` and `Dark` blocks of the country. The Government has earmarked an amount of Rs. 25.00 crores during the IX Five Year Plan for the Scheme. The Scheme cover the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Naud, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi.The impact of this Scheme has been found favorable and encouraging.

Some of the other water conservation programmes undertaken by the Government in the country are:

(1) Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP)

(2) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)

(3) Desert Development Programme (DDP)

(4) Soil conservation for enhancing the productivity of degraded lands in the catchmets of Rive Valley Projects

(RVPs) and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).

(5) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

(6) Watershed Development Projects for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) in North Eastern States.

(7) Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project

(IAEP)

(8) Western Ghat Development Programme (WGDP)

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARA (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3594 FOR ANSWER ( 12-2000.

STATEWISE NET IRRIGATION AREA AND AREA OF BARREN LAND IN THE COUNTRY DURING 1996-97.

(Area in Thousand Ha.)

| Sl. No. | State | Net Irrigation Area | Barren & Unculturable Land |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 4395 | 2556 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 36 | 48 |
| 3, | Assam | 572(a) | 1448 |
| 4. | Bihar | 3624 | 1010 |
| 5. | Goa | 23 | - |
| 6. | Gujarat | 3042 | 2604 |
| 7 | Haryana | 2755 | 89 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 105 | 139 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 313 | 291 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2325 | 799 |
| 11. | Kerala | 357 | 41 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 6399 | 1727 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2567(b) | 1711 |
| 14. | Manipur | 65 | 1419 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 45c | 139 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 7 | 65 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 62 | - |
| 18. | Orissa | 2090(b) | 590 |
| 19. | Punjab | 3847(d) | 89 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 5588 | 2647 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 16 | 173 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 2892 | 481 |
| 23. | Tripura | 35(e) | 133(f) |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 11999 | 978 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 1911 | 36 |
| 26. | Union Territories | 73 | 14 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 55143 | 19227 |

Notes:

(a) Relates to the year 1953-54

(b) Relates to the year 1993-94

(c) Relates to the year 1991-92

(d) Relates to the year 1995-96

(e) Relates to the year 1992-93

(f) Includes area put to non-agricultural uses.

ANNEXURE - II

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY OF PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3594 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12-12-2000.

NAME OF THE STATE/DISTRICT HAVING POCKETS WITH FALL IN GROUND WATER LEVEL OF MORE THAN 4 MI (19980-99)

| Sl. No. | State | Districts |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Shrikakulam, Chittoor |
| 2. | Maharashtra | Akola, Nagpur,Jalgaon, Osmanabad, Patialqa, Sangrur, Faridkot, Fatehgarh. |
| 3. | Pubjab | Amritsar,Jallandhar,Ferozpur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Sangrur,Faridkot,Fatehgarh. |
| 4. | Haryana | Kurushetra, Kaithal , Mehandragarh, Jind. |
| 5. | Uttar Pradesh | Gonda, Furukhabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Fatehpur, Allahabad, Banda, Nainital. |
| 6. | Bihar | East Singhbhum, Ranchi, Samastipur, Chapra, Dharbhanga. |
| 7 | West Bengal | Purlia, Midnapur |
| 8. | Orissa | Koraput, Mayurbhanj |
| 9. | Rajasthan | Nagaur, Bikaner, Jaipur |
| 10. | Madhya Pr. | Ujjain, Dewas, Shajahanpur, Dhar, Sagar,Bilaspur, Raipur,Surguja, Guna, Narsinghpur. |
| 11. | Karnataka | Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwad, Bellari, Shimoga, Bangalore, Mysore, Gulbarga. |
| 12. | Tamil Nadu | Salem,South Arcot,Coimbatore,Madurai,Tanjavur,Paddukottai, Kamrajar, Thirunaganar. |